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GREAT BIBLE STORIES

JOSEPH





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GREAT BIBLE STORIES

JOSEPH



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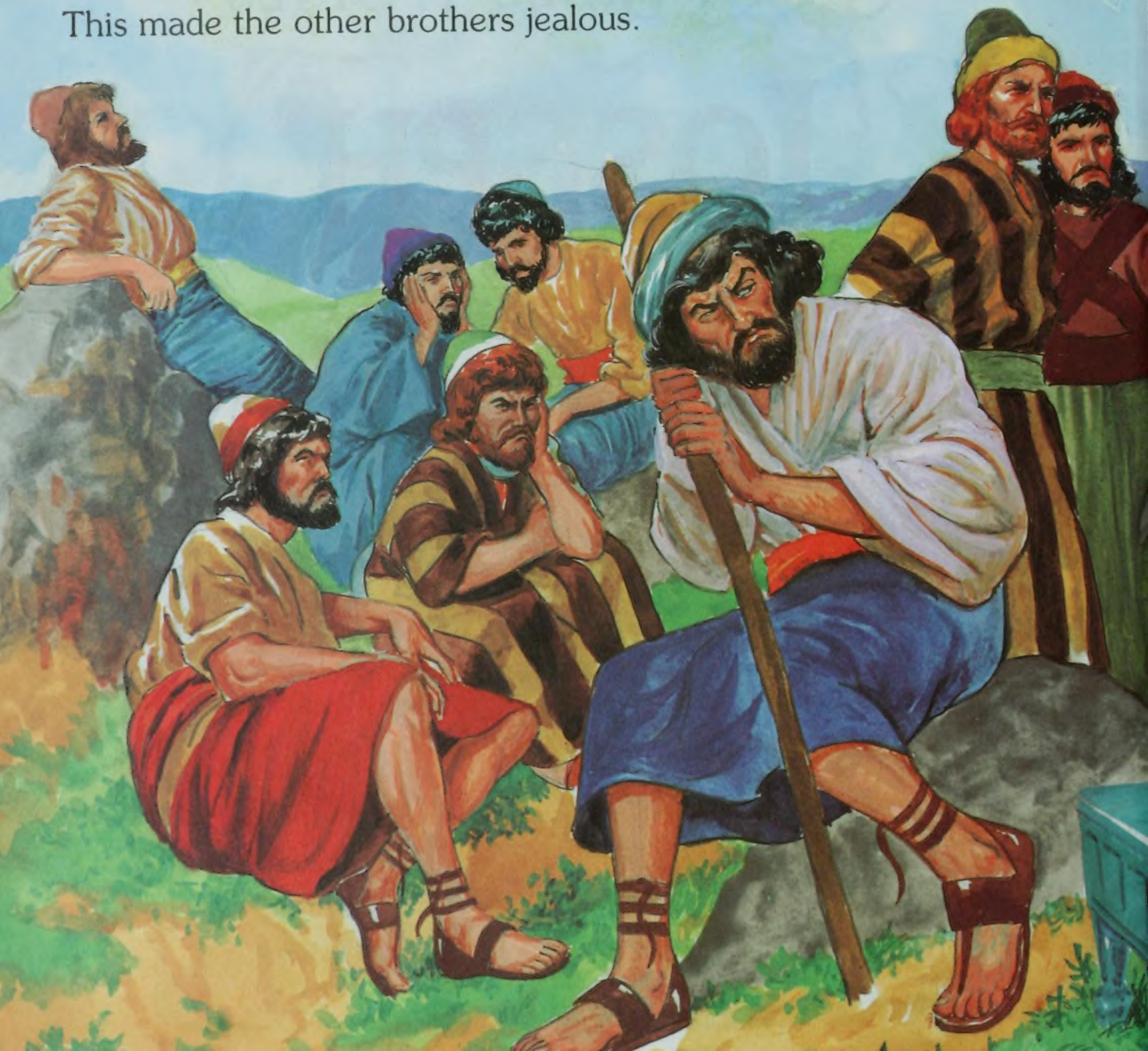
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BARONET BOOKS, NEW YORK, NEW YORK
Printed in China

Jacob had twelve sons. Joseph, however, was his favorite.
This made the other brothers jealous.



One day, Jacob gave Joseph a special, beautiful robe of many colors. His brothers grew even more envious. They came to hate Joseph.





One night Joseph told his brothers a dream he had:
“I dreamed we were all in the fields, tying up sheaves of wheat.
My sheaf stood upright and yours stood around mine and
bowed down to it.”



His brothers were angry when they heard this dream.
“Do you think you will be a king and rule over us?” they asked.

One day, Joseph's brothers went to feed their father's flocks in Shechem. "Joseph," called Jacob, "go and see if your brothers are well."





When Joseph went to Shechem, he could not find them.
“They have traveled further,” said a stranger. So Joseph
went on in pursuit of his brothers.

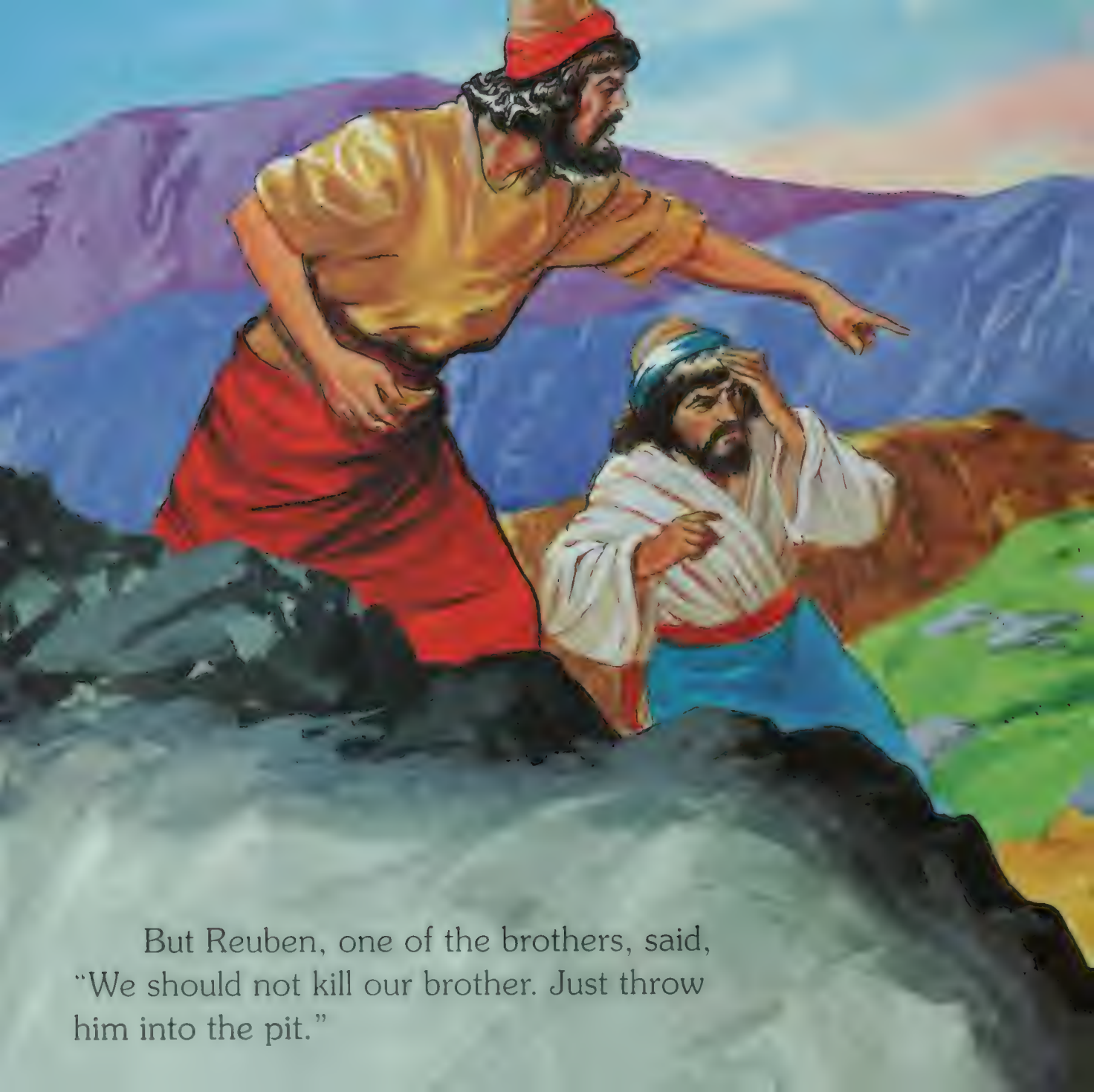


"Here comes the dreamer!" yelled one of his brothers.

Then they plotted against him.

"Let's kill Joseph and throw his body into one of these pits and say that an animal killed him."





But Reuben, one of the brothers, said,
“We should not kill our brother. Just throw
him into the pit.”

When Joseph finally reached them, his brothers yanked off his coat and threw him into the pit.





Then they sat down to eat. Soon a trading caravan on its way to Egypt came by with camels loaded with spices.



Judah, Joseph's brother, said, "Let's sell Joseph to the traders."

So they lifted Joseph from the pit and sold him for twenty pieces of silver. The traders took Joseph away.





The brothers returned home with Joseph's coat and gave it back to Jacob, saying, "Our brother, your son, has been killed by a wild beast." Jacob wept bitterly.

Meanwhile in Egypt, the traders sold Joseph to Potiphar, the captain of the guards to the Pharaoh of Egypt.

Potiphar's wife, however, was wicked and tried to persuade Joseph to plot against her husband. When Joseph refused she had him sent to prison.



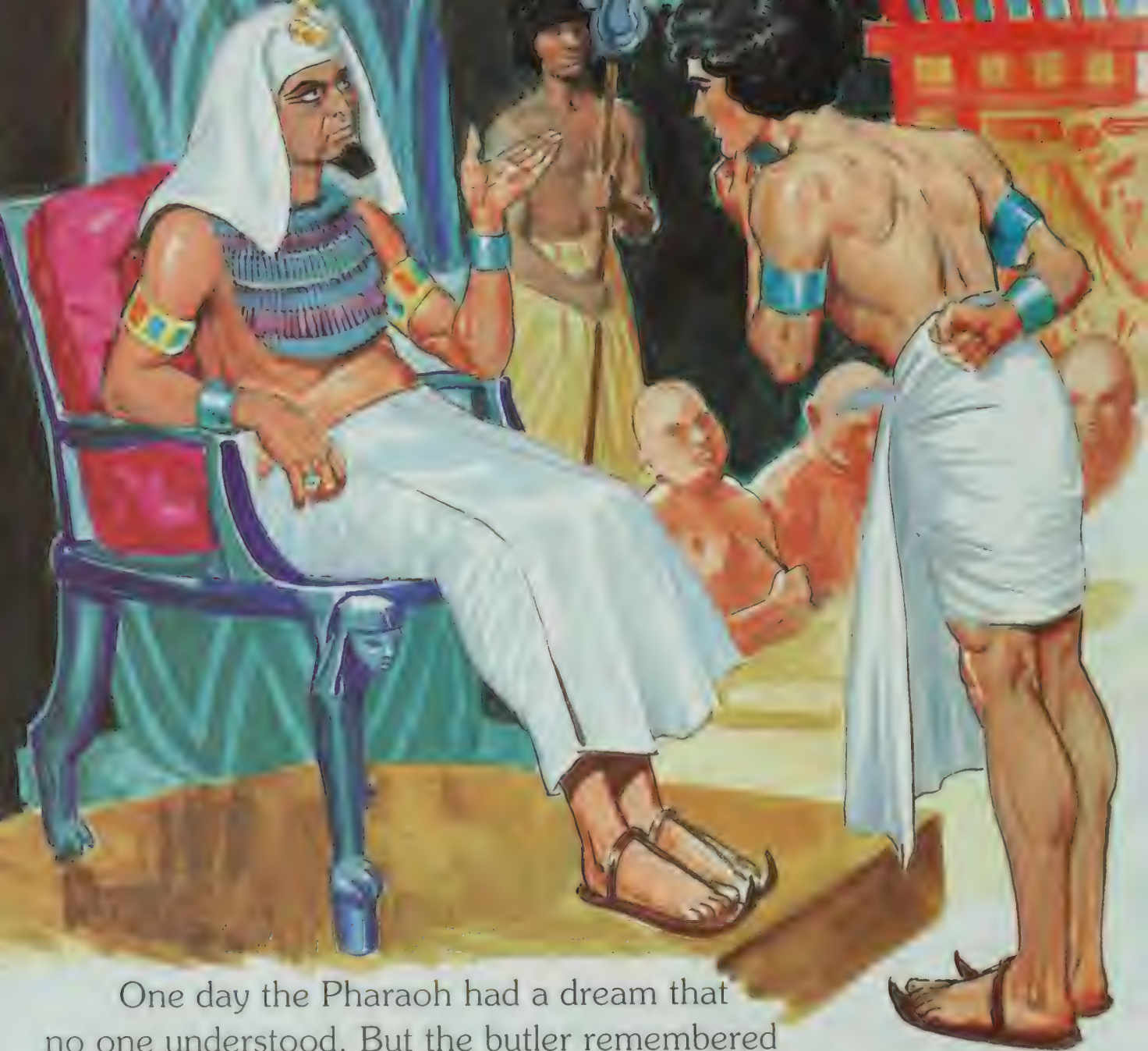


Even in prison, God was with Joseph. He, alone, had the power to understand dreams. One of the prisoners, the Pharaoh's old butler, had a dream which Joseph explained to him.



“In three days, the Pharaoh will restore you to your old job,” Joseph told the butler. Then in three days the dream came true, and the butler was back at Pharaoh’s side.





One day the Pharaoh had a dream that no one understood. But the butler remembered Joseph. So Pharaoh called for Joseph and told him his dream.

“I saw seven fat cows coming from the river and then seven thin cows. The thin cows ate the fat cows, but after they ate they were still thin,” Pharaoh told Joseph.



“God has told you of his plan,” said Joseph. “The seven fat cows are seven years of plenty across the land. But the seven thin cows are seven years of famine across the land. And when this happens the years of plenty will be all forgotten.”



Pharaoh was so grateful to Joseph for his wisdom that he removed his ring and placed it upon Joseph's finger. He dressed Joseph in beautiful, luxurious robes.





Soon Pharaoh made Joseph ruler over all Egypt and gave him a royal chariot to ride in.



Joseph prepared for the famine and saved grain all throughout the land during the good years.

Then after the years of plenty a famine spread all over the land. There was no food to be found in Joseph's old home. Jacob and his sons grew worried.





Joseph's brothers traveled to Egypt to ask the ruler for his help. But when the brothers met Joseph they did not even recognize their long lost brother.



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ISBN 0-86611-008-9

